

SERMON NOTES

March 9, 2025

Speaker: Pastor Brian Bennett

For Freedom

For Freedom: "Approval Issues"		
Approval issues are a [Galatians 1:6-7; 10]		
The Gospel is the	and a	
Approval issues me of my [Galatians 1:10; 5:1; Philippians 4:11-13]		
Jesus sets me free to experience my real: [1 John 3:1; Matthew 11:28-30; Hebrews 12:1-2]		, and
When weand _ being liked for being loved.		, we trade ir

Next Step Questions:

- Are approval issues robbing you of the freedom the Gospel gives us?
- Will you release it all to Jesus today and embrace His freedom?
- Will you "lay it down and let go" today and receive His love for you?



Pathway Group Discussion Questions:

How is God at work in and around your life?

1. Understanding Approval Issues:

- How do approval issues manifest in our daily lives, and why are they considered a Gospel issue according to Galatians 1:6-7; 10?
- In what ways can seeking approval from others rob us of the freedom that Jesus offers?

2. The Gospel vs. Legalism:

- How does the sermon illustrate the difference between the Gospel and legalism, particularly in the context of the Galatian church?
- Why is it important to understand that "Jesus > everything" and "Gospel > Legalism"?

3. Freedom in Christ:

- Reflect on Galatians 5:1 and Philippians 4:11-13. How do these passages encourage us to find contentment and freedom in Christ rather than in the approval of others?
- How can social media and the desire for likes and approval impact our spiritual freedom and contentment?

4. Identity, Belonging, and Purpose:

- According to 1 John 3:1, Matthew 11:28-30, and Hebrews 12:1-2, how does Jesus set us free to experience our real identity, belonging, and purpose?
- What does it mean to trade being "liked" for being "loved" by God?

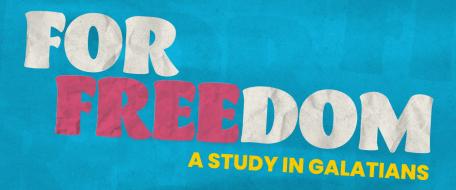
5. Practical Application:

- What steps can we take to release our approval issues to Jesus and embrace the freedom He offers?
- How can we encourage one another to lay down the need for approval and instead focus on our identity in Christ?

6. Personal Reflection:

- How did you answer the next step questions this week?
 - 1. Are approval issues robbing you of the freedom the Gospel gives us?
 - 2. Will you release it all to Jesus today and embrace His freedom?
 - 3. Will you "lay it down and let go" today and receive His love for you?

Note for life group leaders: if you need additional support or resources due to the depth of the verses and topics covered don't hesitate to reach out: zorom@pathwayvb.com



February 23- March 1, 2025

FINANCIALS

\$50,325 up 4.8% to budget for W/E 3/1/25 \$289,223 down 11.7% to budget for Year to Date \$7,596 Net Revenue after including other income through January 2025 \$21,349 for Missions or 16.2% of General Giving YTD through January 2025

CONNECT

Total Worship Attendance: 1244

Online: 281

TWC Attendance Sunday: 603 Kids Sunday/Wednesday: 157 Students Sunday/Wednesday: 203

GROW

Baptisms (YTD): 87

Discipleship Groups: 190 Salvations (YTD): 129

SERVE

People Fed at Food Pantry (one day): 50

Weekly Volunteers: 168